



Borough of Llanfyllin.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

YEAR 1938.

R. A. Bryan, Printer, Llanfyllin.

RHIWLAS,

LLANFYLLIN,

Mont.

Nov. 20th, 1939.

To the Mayor and Members of the Llanfyllin
Borough Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the health and Sanitary circumstances prevailing in the Municipal Borough during the year 1938.

The Vital Statistics are very satisfactory. The birth rate is higher than last year and compares very favourably with that of England and Wales as a whole. The death rate however is higher by 1·6, and is also higher than that of the Country as a whole, which it usually is.

The Borough was free from Epidemic Fever apart from 10 cases of Scarlet Fever, most of which were in the outer area.

The Sanitary Conditions remain practically unchanged.

It is with pleasure that I record the erection of 20 new houses, 19 by you and one by private enterprise, thereby the eradication of much of the overcrowding in the Borough and the demolition of several insanitary houses, the conditions of which has for many years featured in my report. So far so good, but much has been left undone. Out of the 53 houses scheduled by me as capable of being rendered fit for habitation, I find only 4 have been renovated in accordance with my recommendations. It is very disappointing. I had hoped that the Council, having been presented with a detailed survey of each individual house, would have pushed on with a vigorous policy of bringing the housing conditions up to a modern standard of sanitation and fitness.

I much regret that the high hopes entertained in my last year's report have not yet been realized and that so far no attempt has been made to rid the town of the disused outbuildings which deprive adjacent houses of light and ventilation and which are breeding places of vermin and a harbourage of filth. I refer especially to Narrow Street and must again call your attention to those insanitary closets in the yard behind 29 High Street.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

The area of the Borough is 8,143 acres.

The estimated population as supplied by the Registrar General is 1,319.

The number of inhabited houses (end of 1938) as per Rate Books is 388.

Rateable Value—£4,361.

Sum represented by a penny rate—£18 10s. 2d.

VITAL STATISTICS.

<i>BIRTHS.</i>				<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Live Births	{	Legitimate	... ..	8	12	20
		Illegitimate	... ..	3	1	24

Birth-rate per 1,000 population—18·9.

					<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Still Births	...	...	...	...	0	1	1

Birth-rate per 1,000 total live and still births—40.

<i>DEATHS.</i>				<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
				15	7	22

Death-rate per 1,000 population—16·6.

Death-rate from Puerperal Causes—0.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age—1. (Legitimate).

Death-rate of all Infants per 1,000 live births—41·6.

Death-rate of Legitimate Infants per 1,000 live births—50.

Death-rate of Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 live births—0.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)—2

Deaths from Measles (all ages)—0.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)—0.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)—0.

Birth-rate for England and Wales—15·1.

Death-rate for England and Wales—11·6.

Comparative Table of Births and Deaths.

	Birth-rate per 1,000 population.	Death-rate per 1,000 population.	Death-rate per 1,000 Live Births.	
			<i>Maternal.</i>	<i>Infantile.</i>
England and Wales ...	15·1	11·6	3·08	53
Llanfyllin Rural Dist.	15·05	12·65	11·9	49·08
Llanfyllin Borough ...	18·9	16·6	0·	41·6

Comparative Figures for past 10 years.

Year.	Population.	Live Births.	Birth-rate.	Deaths.	Death-rate.	Maternal Death-rate.	Infantile Death-rate.
1929 ...	1589 ...	22 ...	13·8 ...	24 ...	18·1 ...	0 ...	— ... 0
1930 ...	1500 ...	24 ...	16· ...	20 ...	13·3 ...	0 ...	— ... 83·3
1931 ...	1449 ...	23 ...	16· ...	25 ...	17·3 ...	0 ...	— ... 95·2
1932 ...	1386 ...	26 ...	20·2 ...	16 ...	11·5 ...	0 ...	— ... 0
1933 ...	1382 ...	33 ...	23·8 ...	16 ...	11·6 ...	60·6... — ...	0
1934 ...	1370 ...	23 ...	16·8 ...	21 ...	15·3 ...	0 ...	— ... 43·4
1935 ...	1342 ...	21 ...	15·6 ...	22 ...	16·3 ...	0 ...	— ... 0
1936 ...	1346 ...	34 ...	25·2 ...	22 ...	16·3 ...	0 ...	— ... 29·4
1937 ...	1333 ...	18 ...	13·5 ...	20 ...	15· ...	0 ...	— ... 55·5
1938 ...	1319 ...	24 ...	18·9 ...	22 ...	16·6 ...	0 ...	— ... 41·6

Table of Causes of Death with Age incidence.

Disease.	Ages under 1 year.	1/10	30/40	50/60	60/70	70/80	80/90	Total.
Congenital Debility and Premature Birth ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Meningitis ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Heart Disease ...	—	—	—	1	2	7	2	12
Tuberculosis ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Cancer ...	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Suicide ...	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	2
Violence ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Senility ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
	1	1	2	1	4	10	3	22

It is notable that of the 22 deaths 13 were of persons over 70 years of age.

The figure of 2 for Cancer deaths remains the same as last year, while there was only 1 death from Tuberculosis. Heart disease accounted for 12 deaths and there was 1 Infantile death. There were no maternal deaths.

General Provisions of Health Services.

I. Public Health Officers of the Authority:

- (a) A part time Medical Officer of Health.
- (b) A Qualified Sanitary Inspector who also acts as Food Inspector.
- (c) The District Nurse who is the only qualified Midwife practising in the district.

II. (a) Laboratory Facilities: No change.

- (b) **Ambulance Facilities:** There is now an Ambulance located in Oswestry which is at the Service of the Community.

- (c) **Nursing in the Home:** No change.

- (d) **Clinics and Treatment Centres:** No change.

- (e) **Hospitals—Public and Voluntary:** No change.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water.

There has been no changes in the water supply during the year. No analysis of the water was made during the year.

Drainage and Sewerage.

There were no changes or extensions of sewerage arrangements during the year, apart from that of the new council houses which is run into a large septic tank.

Rivers and Streams.

No action taken.

Closet Accommodation.

The four closets in the yard behind 29, High Street, to which I drew your attention in my last report remain unaltered and are decidedly insanitary.

Public Cleansing.

No extensions or actions taken during the year.

Sanitary Inspections of the Area.

III. Number of Inspections made by your Sanitary Inspector during the year.

1. Slaughter Houses	...	...	...	18
2. Bake Houses	...	...	...	20
3. Dairies and Cowsheds	...	...	...	39
4. Factories and Workshops	...	...	...	12
5. Retail Milksellers	...	...	...	41
6. Other Nuisances	...	...	...	11

IV. **Shops:** No action taken.

V. **Smoke Abatement:** No action taken.

VI. **Swimming Baths and Pools:** None in area.

VII. **Eradication of Bed Bugs:** No action taken.

Schools.

The Sanitary conditions and Water Supply of the Schools remain the same.

A supply of T.T. Milk is available at each School, and is much appreciated by the children.

The school children are examined by the School Medical Officer and the Dental Officer, and when parents are informed of any defects of sight, hearing, teeth and tonsils, facilities are offered them for treatment at the Eye, Throat and Nose Clinic in Welshpool.

Housing.

I. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:—

1.	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for Housing Defects under Public Health or Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	6
	(b)	Number of inspections made	...	...	...	...	12
2.	(a)	Number of dwelling houses [included under sub-head (1)] which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	...	...	...	...	2
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	4
3.		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	2
4.		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	4

II. Remedy of defects during the year without Service of Formal Notice		2
III. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :		0
IV. Housing Act 1926, Part iv—Overcrowding :		
(a)	1. Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	4
	2. Number of families dwelling therein	4
	3. Number of persons dwelling therein	24
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	0
(c)	1. Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	7
	2. Number of persons concerned in such cases	39
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil
(e)	Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	Nil

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(a) Milk Supply :

There are 8 wholesale Milk producers and 4 retail Milk sellers in the Borough. Periodic inspections are made and all found to be satisfactory.

One " Tuberculin Tested " License is held in the area.

(b) Meat and other Foods :

There are 3 Slaughter houses and 3 Bake houses in the town which are inspected at frequent intervals by your Inspector.

The number of animals killed is not known.

(c) Adulteration, etc. : No action taken.

(d) Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food : Nil.

(e) Nutrition : No action taken.

(f) Shell Fish (Molluscan) : None in area.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

Ten cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the year, with two Pneumonia's and one Puerperal Fever. Only two of the Scarlet Fever cases resided in the town. It is pleasing to note that there were no new cases of Tubercle during the year.

Table of Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) with Age Incidence.

	Admitted to Hospital.	Years					Total.
		1/5	10/15	15/20	30/40	40/50	
Scarlet Fever ...	1	2	4	—	—	3	10
Pneumonia ...	—	1	—	—	1	—	2
Puerperal Fever ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	1

Cancer. There were two deaths from Cancer during the year. No local investigations were undertaken.

Age Incidence, Sex and Site of Growth:

<i>Site of Growth.</i>			<i>Sex.</i>	<i>Age.</i>
Stomach	...	...	Male	67 years.
Calor	...	...	Male	63 years.

Death-rate for Cancer per 1,000 population—1·5.

4. (a) **Prevention of Blindness:** No action taken.

(b) **Tuberculosis.** No action taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925, (relating to persons suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis in the milk trade) or under Section 62 of the Public Health Act 1925, or Section 172 of the Public Health Act 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal to Hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis).

There was one death from Pulmonary Tubercle, but no new cases. It is very pleasing to note the decline in Tuberculosis during the year.

Death-rate per 1,000 population—·75.

Numbers on my Register at the beginning and end of 1938.

		<i>Respiratory.</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory.</i>		<i>— Total. —</i>			
		<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>		
Jan., 1938	...	2	2	.	0	2	.	2	4 = 6
Jan., 1939	...	0	2	.	0	0	...	0	2 = 2

In conclusion I wish to thank your Inspector for his ready co-operation and assistance.

Table 572 (Factories and Workshops) is affixed hereto.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E. CERNYW JAMES,

B Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.



